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STATE OF NEW JERSEY  
DEPARTMENT OF LAW & PUBLIC SAFETY  
DIVISION OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS  
BOARD OF NURSING

IN THE MATTER OF THE LICENSE OF :	Administrative Action
:	:
TARA J. PIMPINELLO, APN, RN :	CONSENT ORDER
License #26NR09335300 :	:
NP #26NN09335300 :	:
:	:
TO PRACTICE NURSING IN THE :	:
STATE OF NEW JERSEY :	:
:	:

This matter was opened to the New Jersey State Board of Nursing ("Board") upon receipt of information indicating that Tara J. Pimpinello, APN, RN ("Respondent") failed to provide a patient with test results indicating an abnormal cyst on the patient's kidney. The patient died several years later from renal cancer.

Specifically, on December 20, 2005, a forty-seven-year-old male patient, M.E., presented to Respondent at a medical center ("medical center") with complaints of abdominal pain, fever, chills, and sweats. Respondent referred M.E. for a CT scan. The scan, completed on December 30, 2005, showed a renal mass

that measured higher in density than a simple cyst and required follow-up testing. Respondent apparently attempted to call M.E. on December 30, 2005, and January 2, 2006, but the phone line was busy. No further calls were documented. Although M.E. called the medical center's answering service requesting the CT scan results, there is no documentation this call was ever returned. M.E. declined a follow-up appointment, because he found a new physician after no one called him to review the CT scan results.

A later CT scan of M.E. revealed a large renal mass indicative of Stage IV renal cell carcinoma, which had metastasized. On February 26, 2010, M.E. died after battling renal cancer. M.E.'s estate brought a lawsuit against Respondent alleging she failed to communicate the results of the CT scan, which resulted in an over three year delay in diagnosing the renal carcinoma and led to his death. A settlement agreement was reached in the case.

The Board finds Respondent's actions detailed above constitute gross negligence, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 45:1-21(c).

The parties desiring to resolve this matter without further proceedings; Respondent waiving any right to a hearing; the Board finding the within resolution adequately protective of the public; and for other good cause shown;

IT IS on this 4<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2016

HEREBY ORDERED AND AGREED that:

1. Respondent's RN license and APN certification are hereby suspended for a period of one year, all of which shall be stayed and served as probation.

2. Respondent shall immediately inform each employer representative and nursing supervisor of the terms of this Order and provide them with a copy of the Order.

3. Respondent shall notify the Board within ten (10) days of any change of address, or any termination, resignation, or leave of absence from any place of nursing employment.


4. Respondent shall obey all of the laws and regulations governing the practice of nursing in any state or jurisdiction in which she practices.

5. Any deviation from the terms of this Order without the prior written consent of the Board shall constitute a failure to comply with the terms of this Order. Upon receipt of any reliable information indicating that Respondent has violated any term of this Order, the stayed period of suspension shall be activated and Respondent's license shall be automatically suspended by the Board. Respondent, upon fourteen days' notice, may request a hearing to contest the entry of such an Order. At any such hearing, the sole issue shall be whether any of the

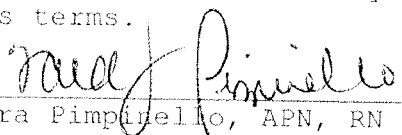
information received by the Board regarding Respondent was materially false. In addition, the Board reserves the right to bring further disciplinary action.

NEW JERSEY STATE BOARD OF NURSING

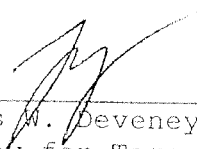
By:

  
Patricia Murphy, PhD, APN  
Board President

I have read and understand  
the within Consent Order  
and agree to be bound by  
its terms.

  
Tara Pimpinello, APN, RN

Consented as to form and entry.

  
Frances W. Deveney, Esq.  
Attorney for Tara Pimpinello